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The present invention embraces a topical composition for inhibiting mammalian hair growth, particularly human beard hair growth (including hirsutism), comprising a water-soluble, hair-growth-inhibiting agent dispersed in an oil-in-water emulsion in the form of a lotion or cream. The invention also embraces a method of inhibiting mammalian hair growth by applying an effective amount of the above composition to the skin. The invention further embraces a topical composition for delivering a pharmacological agent to the skin.

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## TOPICAL COMPOSITION FOR INHIBITING HAIR GROWTH Background of the Invention

This invention relates to a new topical composition for inhibiting mammalian hair growth. It also relates to a method of inhibiting hair growth by applying a topical composition according to this invention to the skin.

In U.S. 4,720,489 it is disclosed that 10 the topical application of a composition comprising an ornithine decarboxylase ("ODC") inhibitor will inhibit hair growth, including beard hair growth. A particularly advantageous ODC inhibitor for use in this application is 2-15 (difluoromethyl) -2,5-diaminopentanoic acid, also identified as  $\alpha$ -(difluoromethyl)ornithine ("DFMO"). This patent demonstrates the effectiveness of ODC inhibitors for inhibiting hair growth by measuring changes in flank organ hair mass in adult male hamsters treated with 20 ethanol solutions of such compounds. The patent also generally proposes the possible incorporation of ODC inhibitors in cosmetic formulations such as skin lotions and creams, but the effectiveness of such proposed 25 formulations and their stability and aesthetic

attributes are unknown. Since DFMO is a highly

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ionic material, it would tend to destabilize emulsion systems and would be difficult to formulate in such systems, particularly at higher dosage levels necessary to achieve maximum efficacy.

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In U.S. 5,095,007, U.S. 5,096,911, and U.S. 5,132,293, additional hair growth inhibitors are disclosed which are completely unrelated to the aforementioned ODC inhibitors. However, each of these patents discloses a water-ethanol vehicle for delivering the active

water-ethanol vehicle for delivering the active compound. The vehicle comprises 68% water, 16% ethanol, 5% propylene glycol, 5% dipropylene glycol, 4% benzyl alcohol, and 2% propylene carbonate. This vehicle is not aesthetically

carbonate. This vehicle is not aesthetically pleasing or easy to use since it is very runny and feels wet and tacky. Moreover, the efficacy of the active material in this vehicle may not be optimum even though the vehicle contains two

20 known penetration enhancers, namely benzyl alcohol and propylene carbonate.

> It is an object of the present invention to provide a topical composition for inhibiting hair growth which is stable, highly efficacious and aesthetically pleasing.

### Summary of the Invention

The present invention embraces a topical composition for inhibiting mammalian hair growth, particularly human beard hair growth (including hirsutism), comprising a water-soluble, hair-growth-inhibiting agent dispersed in an cil-in-water emulsion in the form of a lotion or cream. The invention also embraces a method of inhibiting mammalian hair growth by applying an effective amount of the above composition to the skin. The invention further embraces a topical composition for

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delivering a water-soluble, pharmacological agent to the skin.

Detailed Description of the Invention

The hair growth inhibiting agent which 5 is utilized in the composition and method of the present invention may be any water-soluble, hair-growth-inhibiting agent, particularly any highly ionic, water-soluble, hair-growthinhibiting agent. Such active agents may be selected from any of the classes of agents 10 described in the aforementioned U.S. patents, namely U.S. 4,720,489, U.S. 5,095,007, U.S. 5,096,911, and U.S. 5,132,293, provided such agents are water soluble. In a preferred 15 embodiment, the hair growth inhibiting agent is 2-(difluoromethyl-2,5-diaminopentanoic acid, which is also identified as  $\alpha$ -(difluoromethyl)ornithine, hereinafter abbreviated "DFMO".

The topical composition of the present invention comprises about 1 to 20 parts by weight, preferably 5 to 15 parts, of the aforedescribed water-soluble, hair-growth-inhibiting agent, particularly DFMO, dispersed in 99 to 80 parts by weight, preferably 95 to 85 parts, of a vehicle comprising an oil-in-water emulsion of the formula (the last two ingredients being optional):

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	Inq	redient	Wt. Percent	Ex. I	Ex. II
	Wate	er	78 to 87	80.84*	85.53*
	Glyd	ceryl Stearate SE	<sup>1</sup> 2.8 to 4.8	4.24	2.97
	PEG-	-100 Stearate <sup>1</sup>	2.7 to 4.7	7 4.09	2.86
5	Cet	earyl Alcohol 2	1.9 to 3.3	3.05	2.14
	Cet	eareth-20 <sup>2</sup>	1.6 to 2.7	7 2.50	1.75
	Min	eral Oil	1.7 to 2.7	7 2.22	2.22
	Stea	aryl Alcohol 3	1.0 to 2.0	1.67	1.17
	Dime	ethicone 4	0.3 to 1.0	0.56	0.56
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	Cit	ric Acid <sup>5</sup>	0 to 0.	5 -	0.25
	Sod:	ium Hydroxide 6	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.
	*	0.5% water withh	eld for sub	sequent p	H
		adjustment.			
15	1	Available as a b	lend, for ex	kample Ci	throl
		GMS A/S ES0743 f	rom Croda Cl	nemicals	Ltd.
		(U.R.).			
	2	Available as a b	lend, for e	kample Co	<b>SMOWAX</b>
		EM5483 from Crod			=
20	3	Available as Lor	ol-18 from 1	Henkel Ch	emicals
		Ltd.			
	4	Available as Sil	-		_
		from Dow Corning		_	360
	_	Medical Fluid or		-	
25	5	Other weak acids			
		example lactic,			ic
		acids to serve a	<del>-</del>		
	6	Quantity suffici	ent to adju	st pH to	about

Quantity sufficient to adjust pH to about
3.5. Other strong bases, such as KOH, may
be used or, in some cases, strong acids
such as HCl, where the pH needs to be
lowered.

The active agent plus vehicle will total 100 parts by weight when finished. Minor amounts of other ingredients, such as dyes, fragrances, and biocidal agents or preservatives may be incorporated in the vehicle as deemed

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necessary or desirable. It is preferred to add about 0.5 to 0.9 parts of Phenonip, a biocidal agent available from Nipa Laboratories Ltd. (U.K.), to the above formulation.

The following procedure is carried out to make the vehicle utilized in the topical composition of the present invention. and water soluble components, are charged to a mixing vessel, the pH is adjusted to about 3.5, and the solution is heated to about 70°C. The oil soluble components, except for the biocidal agent, are melted together at about 70°C., then run into the water phase with brisk stirring. Mixing is continued for about twenty minutes, then water cooling is applied. The biocidal agent is added at 40-45°C. and stirring is continued until the temperature reaches 25°C. to yield a white, soft cream with a viscosity of about 8,000-12,000 cps. If it is desired to increase the viscosity of the resulting emulsion, shear can be applied using a conventional homogenizer, for example a Silverson L4R homogenizer with a square hole high shear screen. Normally, this step is not required since the viscosity of the emulsion can increase during dissolution of the active agent.

The topical composition of the present invention is made by blending about 1 to 20 parts by weight, preferably 5 to 15 parts, of the hair-growth-inhibiting active agent, preferably DFMO, with correspondingly 99 to 80 parts by weight, preferably 95 to 85 parts, of the vehicle prepared as described above, and adjusting the pH to about 3.5 with aqueous sodium hydroxide (10%) or hydrochloric acid (10%). Of course, the topical composition could also be fabricated by including the active agent

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in the water phase during the aforedescribed vehicle preparation.

### EXAMPLE

Two vehicles were prepared having the composition designated Ex. I and Ex. II in the above Table according to the aforedescribed procedure. The two vehicles contained 0.83 and 0.55 parts Phenonip respectively. To four separate batches of each vehicle was then added with mixing sufficient DFMO to produce topical 10 compositions containing 2.5, 5, 10 and 15% DFMO. Thus, a total of eight topical compositions were prepared in all. Each composition was tested for hair growth inhibition using a standard 15 hamster flank organ hair mass study as described in the previously identified four U.S. patents. For comparison, a control composition containing vehicle only was tested (IV and II-V below), as well as a composition containing 10% DFMO in the 20 water-ethanol vehicle shown in Ex. I of U.S. 5,096,911 (W-E below). The results of these studies were as follows:

	Com- %	Inhibi- tion	Com- % ]	nhibi- tion
25	I-A (15% DFMO)	84.2	TT 3 /159 DTMO	00.
43		04.2	II-A (15% DFMO)	89.1
	I-B (10% DFMO)	87.6	II-B (10% DFMO)	91.4
	I-C (5% DFMO)	84.5	II-C (5% DFMO)	85.5
	I-D (2.5% DFMO)	60.0	II-D (2.5% DFMO)	81.4
	I-V (0% DFMO)	-	II-V (0% DFMO)	-
30	W-E (10% DFMO)	68.3	W-E (10% DFMO)	72.6

As can be seen, each of the compositions of the invention, namely I-A through I-D and II-A through II-D, were highly efficacious in inhibiting mammalian hair growth. Similarly, beard hair growth inhibition is

Similarly, beard hair growth inhibition is obtained when such compositions are applied to the human face. Remarkably, the above data also

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demonstrate that the present compositions are superior in efficacy to a water-ethanol composition which contains penetration enhancers. This suggests that the present composition achieves either enhanced skin penetration of the active agent or increased residence time of the active agent at the treated site. Moreover, the compositions of the invention remain stable over an extended period of time and have aesthetically pleasing attributes.

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The topical compositions of the present invention are applied to mammalian skin, particularly the human face, on a daily or twice daily basis to provide a level of active agent of about 10 to 2000 micrograms per square centimeter of skin. Obviously, the application dose may be varied to achieve a suitable level of effectiveness for each individual being treated.

It will be apparent that equivalent materials may be substituted for those specified in the aforementioned table of ingredients without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention. For example, other watersoluble, pharmacological agents may be delivered to the skin by incorporating from about 1 to 20% of such an agent in the previously described vehicle.

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#### CLAIMS

1. A topical composition for inhibiting mammalian hair growth which comprises about 1 to 20 parts by weight of a water-soluble, hair-growth-inhibiting active agent dispersed in about 99 to 80 parts by weight correspondingly

of a vehicle comprising an oil-in-water emulsion of the following components in parts by weight:

Water 78 to 87 10 Glyceryl Stearate SE 2.8 to 4.8 PEG-100 Stearate 2.7 to 4.7 Cetearyl Alcohol 1.9 to 3.3 Ceteareth-20 1.6 to 2.7 Mineral Oil 1.7 to 2.7 15 Stearyl Alcohol 1.0 to 2.0 Dimethicone 0.3 to 1.0

- 2. The composition of claim 1, adjusted to a pH of about 3.5 and optionally comprising a pH buffer.
- 20 3. The composition of claim 2, comprising 5 to 15 parts by weight of said active agent dispersed in 95 to 85 parts by weight correspondingly of said vehicle.
- 4. The composition of claim 3, wherein said vehicle comprises an oil-in-water emulsion of the following components in parts by weight:

	Water	80.84
	Glyceryl Stearate SE	4.24
	PEG-100 Stearate	4.09
30	Cetearyl Alcohol	3.05
	Ceteareth-20	2.50
	Mineral Oil	2.22
	Stearyl Alcohol	1.67
	Dimethicone	0.56

35 5. The composition of claim 3, wherein said vehicle comprises an oil-in-water emulsion of the following components in parts by weight:

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	Water	85.53
	Glyceryl Stearate SE	2.97
	PEG-100 Stearate	2.86
•	Cetearyl Alcohol	2.14
5	Ceteareth-20	1.75
	Mineral Oil	2.22
	Stearyl Alcohol	1.17
	Dimethicone	0.56
	Citric Acid	0.25

- 10 6. The composition of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, wherein said active agent is 2-(difluoromethyl)-2,5-diaminopentanoic acid.
  - 7. A method of inhibiting mammalian hair growth which comprises applying to the skin of a
- 15 mammal an effective amount of a topical composition according to claim 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5.

  8. The method of claim 7, wherein the active agent in said topical composition is 2-(difluoromethyl)-2,5-diaminopentanoic acid.
- 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said topical composition is applied daily or twice daily at a level sufficient to provide about 10 to about 2000 micrograms of active agent per square centimeter of skin.
- 25 10. The method of claim 8, wherein said topical composition is applied to human skin.
  11. A topical composition for delivering a water-soluble, pharmacological agent to the skin which comprises about 1 to 20 parts by weight of
- 30 said water-soluble, pharmacological agent dispersed in about 99 to 80 parts by weight correspondingly of a vehicle comprising an oil-

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in-water emulsion of the following components in parts by weight:

	Water	78 to 87
	Glyceryl Stearate SE	2.8 to 4.8
5	PEG-100 Stearate	2.7 to 4.7
	Cetearyl Alcohol	1.9 to 3.3
	Ceteareth-20	1.6 to 2.7
	Mineral Oil	1.7 to 2.7
	Stearyl Alcohol	1.0 to 2.0
10	Dimethicone	0.3 to 1.0

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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		CT MATTER (If several classification sy		
	International Patent 5 A61K7/06	Classification (IPC) or to both National Cl A61K7/155	assification and IPC	
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II. FIELDS SE	EARCHED			
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Classification	System		Classification Symbols	
Int.Cl.	5	A61K		
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III. DOCUME		D TO BE RELEVANT <sup>9</sup>		
Category °	Citation of Do	ocument, 11 with indication, where appropri	ate, of the relevant passages 12	Relevant to Claim No. 13
X	24 Apri cited in see page	602 269 (HANDELMAN) l 1986 n the application e 10, line 1 - line 31; xample 1	claims	1-11
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₩0-A-8602269	24-04-86	US-A- AU-B- AU-A- CA-A- DE-A- EP-A,B JP-T-	4720489 590730 4867385 1262335 3585526 0198893 62500932	19-01-88 16-11-89 02-05-86 17-10-89 09-04-92 29-10-86 16-04-87
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